Pollution Prevention Opportunities for Formulators

The keys to pollution prevention in formulation are better scheduling to minimize changeover, finding alternative cleaning methods to minimize waste generation, and avoiding the use of chlorinated solvents.

Y/N	Opportunities	Comments
ı.	Material Handling and Storage	
	Control inventory	Do not allow material to exceed shelf life and then have to be discarded as waste. Use materials on a first-in, first-out basis. Do not get rid of expired products by discharging to wastewater treatment system.
	Reduce use of containers	Fewer containers means less water will be required for triple rinsing. Have suppliers deliver materials in tank trucks directly to on-site storage tank.
	Buy appropriate amounts	Buy materials in small quantities if only small amounts are required. Savings on large quantity purchases can be lost if unused material must be disposed or is discharged to laboratory sink drains.
	Manage laboratory samples	Do not allow concentrated lab samples to be discharged to wastewater treatment system.
·	Cover outdoor storage	Divert clean stormwater away from material storage and handling areas.
***************************************	Install spill containment	Spills can be contained and managed appropriately rather than draining to wastewater treatment system and causing system upsets.
II. Rinsing		
	Use jet sprays with pressure booster pump	Reduces amount of required rinsewater.
***	Use water knife spray	Reduces amount of required rinsewater.
	Use steam cleaner	Reduces amount of required rinsewater.
III.	Material Recycling, Reuse, an	d Recovery
	Install drip pan for filling line	Recover and recycle product to filling reservoir.
	Reuse mix tank rinsewater	Reuse rinsewater in next process batch.
	Reuse floor washwater	Treat and reuse as washwater or equipment rinsewater (including empty drum rinsing). Treatment technologies include chemical precipitation, biological treatment, activated carbon adsorption, air or steam stripping, hydrolysis, chemical oxidation, and resin adsorption.

	Reuse container rinsewater	Treat and reuse both solvent and water rinses for containers
	Recover materials for reuse from wastestreams using separation technologies	Separate and concentrate materials using membrane separation and evaporative technologies.
	Collect and reuse stormwater	Reuse as floor washwater.
IV.	Process Modification	
	Use continuous processes	Batch processes involve more frequent mix tank cleaning.
	Use pumps and pipes	For raw material and product transfer, use closed systems as much as possible. Reduces potential for spills.
	Segregate waste streams	Increases recovery potential and treatment efficiency. Segregate water-based streams from solvent-based streams. Reduces amount of solvent to wastewater treatment system.
	Dedicate equipment	Reduces need for tank rinsing between batches.
	Optimize inventory and production schedule using computer production.	Minimizes need for changeover and consolidates batch production
V. Process Operation and Maintenance		
	Raw material purity	Use high quality raw materials in batch so batch will not become contaminated and have to be managed as a waste.
	Use mops and squeegees	For floor washing, mops and squeegees reduce amount of washwater required.
	Wiper blades on mix tanks	Use wiper blades to physically wipe down sides of mix tanks. Reduces amount of rinsewater required.
	Spill cleanup procedures	Establish procedures for what to do with a spill. Mitigates chance of spill being discharged to wastewater treatment plant.
***	Perform preventive maintenance	Routinely check for leaks in valves and fittings. Repair immediately.